

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 2, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

To reduce the problem of condensation forming on the upper skive assembly, U.S. ~~patent application no. 09/736,656~~ Patent No. 6,564,030 by Baughman et al (~~publication no. US 2002/0071699 A1~~), which is hereby incorporated by reference, discloses a vented deflector plate. While this does reduce condensation considerably, heavier weight and larger size papers produce more condensation that is not completely dissipated with this design.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 28, with the following rewritten paragraph:

According to a further aspect of the invention, a skive blade **60** mounted on the skive plate center portion **26**, extending towards the roller, and the skive plate **20** comprises a skive plate surface **24** convex toward the roller **5**, and composed of three flat facets with one of the facets, a base facet **23**, extending along a length of the skive plate **20** which comprises the trailing edge **28** opposite the skive plate terminal edge **22**, and the other two beginning from opposing edges **62** of the skive blade **60** and extending outward in opposite directions along the length of the skive plate **20**.